

REMARKS

In response to the election requirement in the Office Action of August 29, 2002, Applicants hereby elect without traverse the Group I claims - that is, claims 1-14, drawn to a laser irradiation apparatus. Claims 15-41 have been canceled and claims 1-8 and 11-12 have been amended herewith. Accordingly, claims 1-14 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 11 are independent.

Examination on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel claims 15-41 without prejudice to Applicant's right to file a divisional application with respect thereto.

Please amend claims 1-8 and 11-12 as follows:

1. (Amended) A beam homogenizer for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

two reflectors for splitting said laser beam.

2. (Amended) A beam homogenizer of claim 1, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.

3. (Amended) A beam homogenizer for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

two reflectors for beam splitting, each of said reflectors including a plurality of reflective surfaces,

wherein any of said plurality of reflective surfaces is in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola.

4. (Amended) A beam homogenizer of claim 3, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.

5. (Amended) A beam homogenizer for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

two reflectors for beam splitting;

one of said reflectors including a plurality of reflective surfaces, any of said plurality of reflective surfaces being in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola;

the other of said reflectors including a plurality of plane mirrors.

6. (Amended) A beam homogenizer of claim 5, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.

7. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

a laser oscillator; and

two reflectors for splitting said laser beam, each including a plurality of reflective surfaces,

wherein any of said plurality of reflective surfaces is in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola.

8. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus of claim 7, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.

11. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus for forming a [rectilinear] laser beam elongated in one direction on an irradiated surface, comprising:

a laser oscillator;

a first reflector for splitting said laser beam, said first reflector including a plurality of reflective surfaces; and

a second reflector for splitting said laser beam, said second reflector including a plurality of plane mirrors,

wherein any of said plurality of reflective surfaces is in agreement with a locus which is depicted by a part of a parabola when the part of the parabola is translated in a direction perpendicular to a plane containing said parabola.

12. (Amended) A laser irradiation apparatus of claim 11, wherein said [rectilinear] laser beam has a length of 600 mm or more along said one direction on said irradiated surface.